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CHAIRMAN,
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WASHINGTON ADDRESS:
1414 HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.
May 13, 1954

14 MAY 1954

CARDER

THE WHITE HOUSE

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The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your splendid leadership and active support of the St. Lawrence Seaway project. As a staunch advocate for many years of this undertaking, I am proud to have had a part in the framing of the legislation and in its passage by the House of Representatives. I believe the enactment of this legislation is an outstanding achievement of your Administration, and completion of this project will, for years to come, have tremendous influence in supporting the economy of this country and fortifying its security.

I shall take a continuing interest in the prompt and efficient construction of the waterway. It was with this latter thought in mind that my Committee, in reporting out the Bill, recommended that the St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation be placed under the direction and supervision of the Secretary of the Army, as is the Panama Canal Company. Since all internal navigation works have for 125 years been accomplished under the Army Secretary's direction and the Chief of Engineers' supervision, it was the further expectation of the Committee that the Corporation would utilize the services of the Corps of Engineers for design, construction, maintenance, and operation of the new Seaway facilities.

In 1941 and 1942 the Corps of Engineers made exhaustive surveys and detailed designs of the St. Lawrence Seaway navigation works. Representatives of the Corps have been of great value to me and my committee in advising on all matters connected with the Seaway and have testified that with the detailed plans in their possession they are ready to undertake actual construction work immediately upon funds being made available. It was the thought of the Committee itself that no other agency of the government is